

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-15 are now pending in the patent application. Claims 9-13 were allowed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 5-8, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dolezal et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,186,610) in view of Vachon (U.S. Pat. No. 4,591,996). Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is now moot in view of the amendments discussed below under the Allowable Subject Matter heading.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

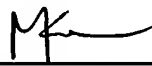
The Examiner states that claims 2-4 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled claim 2 without prejudice as to its subject matter and amended 1 to include the limitations of claim 2. Accordingly, amended claim 1 has the same scope as original claim 2. Claim 3 was amended to depend from claim 1. Claim 4 properly depends from claim 3. Claims 5-8 depend from amended claim 1. Claim 16 was cancelled without prejudice, and claim 14 was amended to include the limitations of claim 16. Accordingly, amended claim 14 has the same scope as previously presented claim 16. Claim 15 depends from amended claim 14. Therefore, claims 1, 3-8, 14, and 15 should now be in condition for allowance. Claims 9-13 were allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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